

HOUSE BILL 3098  
By DuBois

AN ACT to name a bridge on State Route 6 in Maury County in honor of the late Charles C. Beard.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those courageous members of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives in the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late Charles C. Beard, United States Army, who gave his life for his country while serving in the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, Charles C. Beard was raised in the Santa Fe community of Maury County; he was a graduate of Santa Fe High School and a member of the Santa Fe Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Charles C. Beard entered the United States Army on September 6, 1967, and received heavy artillery training at Fort Knox, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Beard bravely served in the Vietnam War as a member of Troop B, 1st Squadron of the 4th Cavalry, Infantry Division, United States Army; he was killed in action in Vietnam on April 19, 1968; and

WHEREAS, Charles C. Beard was an exemplary soldier who received the following medals and honors for his intrepid and courageous service in the U.S. Army: Purple Heart, Bronze Star, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnamese Campaign Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Marksmanship Badge for Rifle, and Good Conduct Medal; and

WHEREAS, Charles C. Beard served with great courage and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; as a member of the United States Army, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of the citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, Charles C. Beard's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers, and his country, as exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in

defense of all that he held dear, stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, the Maury County Legislative Body has petitioned this General Assembly to name a certain bridge on State Route 6 to honor the bountiful life of this exceptional young man, and we most heartily concur with this excellent proposal to permanently commemorate the singular patriotism, courage, and commitment to duty of the late Charles C. Beard; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, State Bridge No. 60-03209-.19 on State Route 6 in Maury County is hereby designated as the "Charles C. Beard Memorial Bridge" in recognition of the life of valor and death in military action of Charles C. Beard, United States Army.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating State Bridge No. 60-03209-.19 on State Route 6 in Maury County as the "Charles C. Beard Memorial Bridge". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.